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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029



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# Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site Interview Summary Confidential Source #12



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**INTERVIEW SUMMARY**  
**Work Assignment ES002**  
***Lower Darby Creek Area Site***

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(b) (6)

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Prepared for:

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Region III**  
Enforcement Support Services  
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

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Prepared by:

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Work Assignment Number:	ES002
Date Submitted:	May 1, 2002
Contract Number:	68-S3-01-01
EPA Work Assignment Manager:	Carlyn Prisk
Telephone Number:	(215) 814-2625
DASTON Work Assignment Manager:	(b) (4)
Telephone Number:	
Interviewer:	Tri-State Enterprise

**Name:** (b) (6) (WITNESS)  
(b) (6)

**Affiliation:** Former Resident

**Telephone:** (b) (6)

**Type of Interview:** In-Person

**Date of Interview:** April 30, 2002

On April 30, 2002, the WITNESS was interviewed at his residence by (b) (4) of Tri-State Enterprise. The WITNESS was interviewed as part of the potentially responsible party search currently being conducted under Work Assignment NO. ES-002 involving the Lower Darby Creek Area, Delaware County, PA (the "Site"). This interview focused on the Folcroft Landfill (Folcroft). The WITNESS was provided with a copy of the letter of introduction, advised of the nature of the questions to be asked and advised that the interview was voluntary. The WITNESS advised that he is not represented by an attorney in this matter and did not want an attorney. No other persons were present and this interview was not tape-recorded.

During the course of this interview, the WITNESS responded to questions based on guidelines provided by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for area residents.

The WITNESS was shown a map of the Site and this map was used throughout the interview. This map is attached to this interview summary.

The WITNESS was asked to explain his association with the Folcroft Landfill.

The WITNESS stated that he is (b) (6) a community activist during the time Folcroft was in operation. He indicated that he lived at (b) (6) and played on the Folcroft Landfill from about 1968 to 1972, when Folcroft closed. The WITNESS stated that he also picked through the waste when he could to locate copper.

The WITNESS stated that he was also associated with (b) (6). The WITNESS stated that (b) (6) was a resident of Folcroft and a conservationist. He indicated that (b) (6) and (b) (6) were very active in attempting to have the Folcroft Landfill closed by Government authorities. The WITNESS stated that from approximately 1968 to 1972 he would canoe up and down Darby Creek with (b) (6) on a weekly basis. He stated (b) (6) would take a trip up Darby Creek about two times a week. He stated that (b) (6) took numerous photographs of disposal activities during these canoe trips. He stated that she had told him that she wanted to document the disposal activities taking place at the Folcroft Landfill.

The WITNESS stated that (b) (6) is deceased and that he did not believe she had any family when she died. When asked if he knew where these photographs might be located, the WITNESS stated that (b) (6)'s estate was being handled by the (b) (6) family. He indicated that this family lived in (b) (6) and might still live in the area.

When asked to describe his observations of Folcroft, the WITNESS stated that he played on the landfill on a weekly basis from the time he was twelve years old until Folcroft closed in 1972. He indicated that he was sixteen years old when Folcroft closed.

The WITNESS stated that he recalls three pits in the area of the Folcroft Annex and two pits on the west side of the main Folcroft Landfill close to the Annex. The WITNESS described these pits as 60-80 feet deep and the surface size of a football field. He indicated that all of these pits were dug below the water line. He indicated that some of the pits filled with spring water and he would swim in these pits before they were used as disposal locations.

The WITNESS stated that these pits were used to dispose of drum waste. He indicated that he recalls observing truckloads of 55-gallon steel drums disposed of at Folcroft on a daily basis.

The WITNESS stated that all other waste was disposed of on the landfill surface and this waste was covered with dirt at the end of the day.

When asked if he knew the type of drum waste that was being disposed of at Folcroft and to identify the name of the companies that this waste was coming from, the WITNESS stated that he paid very little attention to names on trucks or drums. He does recall observing numerous sealed 55-gallon steel drums labeled "Carbon Tetrachloride". He could not recall if these drums had a company name or label on them. The WITNESS stated that he also recalls numerous 30-gallon steel drums containing red and white phosphorus. He did not recall if these drums had any names on them.

The WITNESS stated that he does recall observing waste from the following companies:

- Rohm & Haas: The WITNESS stated that he had observed numerous sealed 55-gallon steel drums with the name Rohm and Haas printed on the side of the drum. He did not know what these drums contained.
- University of Pennsylvania: The WITNESS stated that he recalls observing numerous plastic bags packaged in cardboard boxes with the name Uof P printed on the side. He indicated that these plastic bags contained bloody bandages and needles.

The WITNESS stated that at the time he was not interested in the names of companies involved in disposing of waste at Folcroft and could not recall any further specific names.

When asked to describe any unusual items or events when he was at Folcroft, the WITNESS stated that on numerous occasions he observed dead animals disposed of at Folcroft. He indicated that these animals were from some type of research facility. He indicated that he arrived at this conclusion because the area of Folcroft where the animals were being dumped

would have a heavy odor of formaldehyde. He described the dead animals as everything from cats and dogs to cows and sheep. He indicated that when a load of dead animals arrived at Folcroft, the dead animals would cover an area larger than an acre.

The WITNESS stated that he had observed 18-wheel dump trucks dispose of dirt-like sludge on the Folcroft Landfill. He indicated that this sludge was used to cover the waste. He indicated that regular dirt was applied over this sludge. The WITNESS stated that he recalls watching this waste being dumped while he had a lit cigarette and was told by a dump truck driver to put the cigarette out because the sludge was very flammable. The WITNESS stated that he flicked his cigarette on the substance and indicated that the substance immediately flashed and caught fire. The WITNESS stated that he has not seen any sludge since then that was as flammable as this sludge. The WITNESS indicated that he has been a hazardous material technician for the past twenty years. He indicated that he believes this sludge was the waste by-product from the filtering system used for separating solvent waste.

When asked if the Folcroft Landfill was opened at night, the WITNESS stated yes. He indicated that Folcroft utilized bulldozers that were equipped with large headlights for nighttime use.

When asked the names of any Folcroft employees, the WITNESS stated that he could only recall Ed Mullen. He stated that Ed Mullen was the general manager and that he was constantly chasing he and his friends off of the landfill. The WITNESS stated that (b) (6) (b) (6) had told him that a McCloskey was involved in the operation of the Folcroft Landfill. The WITNESS could not provide any further information about this individual.

When asked the names of other individuals that may have knowledge of Folcroft Landfill operations, the WITNESS provided the following names:

- (b) (6): The WITNESS stated that this individual lived in Folcroft and was active with the community efforts to close the Folcroft Landfill.
- (b) (6): The WITNESS stated that Ms. Centrone was also a community activist in the Folcroft area.

"I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct."

Executed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)